

Postal Clerks Declared to Be Constantly Slipping More and More Into Debt

HARD TO GET NECESSITIES, CLERK SAYS AT HEARING

47 Years a Carrier, Postal Man Apologizes To Family For Scant Fare

"James B. Fields," Chairman Bell, of the subcommittee on Postoffice and Postroads, holding hearings on the Madden bill regarding wage increases for postal employees, called the next witness.

Fields stood up, a small man, seventy-nine years old. Here are some of the facts he gave the committee in a straight-from-the-shoulder manner without embellishment:

"I can't support my family on the salary I get as a carrier in Chicago."

"Five years ago when I came home from work I sat down to the table with my children all around me, smiling, happy, and contented. We had plenty."

"Today we are fighting at the table—and here Fields faltered a little."

"And I have to apologize to my family—apologize to my family."

"How long have you been in the postal service, Mr. Fields?" asked Congressman Bell.

"Forty-seven years," replied Fields.

He has learned the intricacies of the postal service and is especially adapted to postal work, nothing that he has learned would be of use in any private enterprise he might undertake.

Of employees with whom he has come in contact he said all would have to have a raise unless they were willing to make radical changes in their way of living.

"I do not enjoy being in this committee and the public my present financial condition, but my case is typical and I am testifying in justice to my fellow workers as well as to my family."

Carrier Relates Hardships. The next witness called was Granville L. Soper, a substitute carrier, of Baltimore, who testified to the conditions under which the substitute carrier has to work.

He said they have to report at the office in all sorts of weather and under the most trying conditions without even a guarantee they will work that day. Their day is wasted, however, as they have to be "on call" although they receive only 35 cents per hour for the time they actually work.

"When we reach the office," he said, "before we officially report we have to find out if we are wanted. We have no regular hours. If we work one day we are told to be at the office at a certain hour the next day. We then may learn that we may work one hour or more, but we do not get paid for the intervening time."

Need 50 Cents An Hour. Congressman Steiensen asked if a minimum salary of 35 cents per hour for a half day to be paid whenever a man was called, but was not put to work, would meet the situation. The reply was that it might barely meet his situation. He was single, but many of the substitute carriers were men with large families to support, and he thought nothing less than 50 cents per hour would benefit them, and they would have to skip along without cognate at that.

The witness was not prepared to testify to the schedule of increased pay, but was inclined to believe that substitute carriers should be provided for on the annual roll.

The letter carriers of the permanent organization were represented by Edward J. Galt, president of the National Letter Carriers' Association. He said that he recently resigned his position as carrier at Manassas, Ind., because the postal authorities would not grant him an indefinite leave of absence to attend the association's business. He charged that the eligibility list for letter carriers was not being used to the benefit of the employees' demands, the committee has permitted the interjection of questions relating to the old Postoffice controversy. Matters of policy that have long been under fire for the purpose of making political capital have been injected into the country. He expressed it as his opinion that with peace would come a lowering of the cost of living and if that were true he would be willing to abide the result of any investigation by Congress to determine a just wage.

Knows No Other Work. Concerning the question of Mr. Schneider entering some other work, he said he was not fitted for anything else and that he had gone into the postal service at twenty years of age to make it a life work. He is now thirty-four years old, and, although

RETIREMENT AND PENSION MEASURES UP AFTER RECESS

Pension and retirement legislation for the benefit of the clerks and employees in the Government Service promises to be a feature of the proceedings of Congress after the holidays.

Senator McKellar of Tennessee, chairman of the Senate Civil Service Committee, said today he expected to bring the subject up in the Senate after the recess. He hopes to have data in his hands in a short time, which is being prepared for him by Herbert D. Brown, chief of the Bureau of Efficiency.

"When that data reaches me," said he, "the bill will be perfected, and I expect to press it after the holidays."

For Permanent Relief. It is the view of Senator McKellar that the proposed legislation should be of a general and permanent character. In other words, he hopes it will not be necessary to keep simply passing emergency legislation for the relief of the superannuated.

One of the plans proposed is to pass an emergency measure which would at once retire the superannuated and then to follow it with permanent legislation. This was proposed last session by Congressman Keating and others.

While this would unquestionably be beneficial, it will be far more so if there is permanent action taken to establish a substantial pension and retirement system.

Believe Time Is Ripe. Advocates of pension and retirement legislation, who have fought the fight for the cause many years, believe conditions are ripe for the passage of a comprehensive law. The large increase in employees in the departments, the fact that the demands of the war call strongly for efficiency in the Government service, and the increased cost of living which makes it almost out of the question for a humane department head to get rid of an aged employee, are factors contributing to develop support for a retirement measure.

Moreover, the democratic platform calls for such an enactment and the Democratic leaders cannot well get around that.

Senator Hollis is encouraged over the prospects for the retirement bill for District teachers and hopes to see this put through both houses soon after the holiday recess ends.

NEED OF CLERKS MAY LOWER BARS OF CIVIL SERVICE

With thousands of new employees to be put on the Government rolls in the next two or three months and additional clerks swarming into Washington, a resolution which has been passed by the Senate on motion of Senator Pomerene will facilitate greatly the work of the Civil Service Commission and tend to give relief in respect to additional help.

Under the Pomerene resolution, persons, regardless of their State residence, who are in the civil service examination here, under the present system, residents of the States temporarily in Washington must go back to their States for examination.

Influx of clerks and employees to meet the Government war needs is tremendous. George Wales, chief examiner of the Civil Service Commission, estimates that in January and February alone 10,000 additional workers are likely to be brought to this city. It is estimated that 50,000 Government clerks in the aggregate will have arrived here by March 1 as war employees.

The War Department, under stress of war, is calling for additional help. An entrance salary of \$1,000, with promotion to \$1,200 in three months, is offered to competent persons.

The Internal Revenue Bureau, the War Risk Insurance Board, and the War Trade Board are taking on additional help. To carry out the tax law the Internal Revenue Bureau will need from 800 to 1,000 new employees.

"MILLIONAIRE KID" IS DIVORCED AGAIN

NEW YORK, Dec. 19.—Mrs. Genevieve Florence Hagan Brand, known throughout the West as the "millionaire kid of Peacock alley," has been divorced again. The court has just granted the petition of James H. Brand, cotton broker, for annulment of his marriage with the adventuress. Mrs. Brand figured in sensational divorce suits in the West several years ago.

Brand married the woman in Jacksville, Fla., in 1915, when she represented herself as being a schoolgirl.

BISHOP SCORES WEARERS OF LOW-NECK GOWNS

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 19.—In his Christmas pastoral letter to the rectors, Bishop Paul Matthews, of the Episcopal diocese of New Jersey, voices a protest against the increasing number of evening marriage ceremonies and the wearing of low-neck gowns at such affairs.

The bishop says a wedding at night gives it more of a social than religious aspect, and that decoleté gowns also detract the sacredness of the occasion.

Congress Did Yesterday

The Prohibition Amendment—Investigating Shipping and Transportation—Taxing Official Salaries—Farm Loans—Woman Suffrage—Fuel and Sugar.

By W. V. BYARS.

By a vote of 47 to 8 the Senate yesterday adopted the prohibition amendment in the form in which it came from the House. After being signed by the Vice President and the Speaker of the House, its submission to the States was completed. It is now before the country. The preamble of the Declaration of Independence may be made good against it.

The House set seven years as the limit of time for its adoption. In a discussion led by Senator Borah the question of authority to set any limit at all was developed. It was left unsettled.

Resolutions submitted by Senator Harding of Ohio directed the Senate Committee on Commerce to begin an investigation of the progress made by the Shipping Board. Red tape and a conflict of authority were alleged.

On behalf of the Administration, Senator John Sharp Williams said that the investigation can do no harm and may do great good. He welcomed the "full glare" of publicity. "The enemy knows all about it already," he said. "The best thing you can do is to let your own people know all about it."

The Senate also provided for an investigation of transportation to be begun during the recess by its Committee on Interstate Commerce. The resolution providing for it was introduced by Senator Cummins, with Senator Newlands, chairman of the committee, concurring.

For the benefit of many young people now in Washington seeking employment "to win the war," the Senate adopted Senator Pomerene's resolution under which the necessary civil service examinations can be held in Washington.

The Senate discussed, amended, and postponed the oil and mineral lands leasing bill. It was set for final passage on January 7.

Just before adjournment the Senate and House took up the joint resolution for an amendment to the farm loan bill authorizing the Government to buy \$100,000,000 in farm loan bonds for two years. The Senate amended and passed the bill, adjourning immediately afterward.

The House, which was still considering it, then made it a special order for January 3, and also adjourned. It was explained that the sale of Liberty bonds had taken the market for farm loan bonds to such an extent as to make Government help unavoidable.

The House debated and passed the joint resolution amending the war revenue bill so as to leave no doubt that the salaries of members of Congress and officers and employees under the United States Government are fully subject to the excess profits tax. The exemption of the President and members of the Supreme Court was voted out. The debate was warm. Democratic Floor Leader Kitchin vindicated his motives and stood on his record against all who had attacked it.

The House Committee on Woman Suffrage took over from the Committee on Privileges and Elections everything which comes under its jurisdiction. January 10 was set for the House for taking up the woman suffrage amendment.

Mr. Emerson of Ohio introduced in the House a resolution providing for the appropriation of \$10,000,000 to be used in manufacturing freight cars to be leased to railroads for handling food and fuel.

Under a House bill introduced by Mr. Lenroot of Wisconsin \$100,000,000 would be used in organizing the United States Equipment Corporation, with a "national railroad" map as general manager. The purpose stated is to "acquire locomotives and cars and lease them at a reasonable rental" to railroads which are now "war sufferers."

The proposed equipment company is to be under control of the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Secretary of the Treasury. In addition to existing taxes, a tax of 10 per cent on all income of transportation companies above 7 per cent net, is provided for.

Under a bill introduced in the House by Mr. Johnson of South Dakota, newspaper publishers and others would be liable to fine and imprisonment if articles of food or medicines are misrepresented in advertisements sent through the mails.

In telegraphic correspondence between Governor Cox, of Ohio, and Chairman Reed, of the Senate Committee on Manufactures, Governor Cox declined to accept an invitation

SPECIAL NOTICES

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the stockholders of the Muncie Trust Company of Washington, D. C., will be held at its banking house, Muncie Building, Tuesday, January 15, 1918, at 11 a. m., for the election of Directors and the revision of such other bylaws as may properly come before the meeting. Resolutions from 11:30 a. m. until 12:30 p. m. WILLIAM L. LAMBERT, Secretary.

I MAKE a specialty of preparing and knowledging Income Tax returns after January first. LORENZO G. WARFIELD, No. 1414 Public, 1114 N. W. North 402. Draft addresses free.

WE ORGANIZE corporations ready to do business under Delaware or D. C. laws at lowest rates. For further particulars address THE CORPORATION AGENCY COMPANY, Washington, D. C.

What It Did Yesterday

The Prohibition Amendment—Investigating Shipping and Transportation—Taxing Official Salaries—Farm Loans—Woman Suffrage—Fuel and Sugar.

to come to Washington and explain the Ohio coal situation. He hoped "Doctor Garfield's blunders" were now in a fair way of being corrected. Chairman Reed telegraphed that the invitation remained in force, waiting the governor's convenience.

Mr. Earl D. Babet, of the American Sugar Refining Company, appeared before the Senate Committee on Manufactures yesterday. He gave the committee a full statement of the relations of his company to the sugar trade and of the present condition of the trade. In that connection he was a willing and very able witness. As a member of the international committee of the Food Administration, however, he preferred to answer only in executive sessions questions affecting fixing of prices and other current business. He will resume the stand today.

The confirmation of General Crozier's nomination as chief of ordinance will be taken up in the Senate after the holidays. One of the most interesting points before the Military Affairs Committee of the Senate was Modell McCormick's report of General Petain's opinion that the United States can do most to win the war by rushing guns and shells.

IMPROVED FARMING. Officer Bill, a Morgan Beach sportsman, proposes to increase the food supply and brighten the lives of wild ducks by planting wild rice in Morgan marsh.

Morgan, he thinks, could raise wild rice in abundance. "About the only thing it now raises in summer," says a man from Keyport, "is a smell."—Exchange.

Vital Records

The following births and deaths have been reported to the Health Department during the last twenty-four hours:

John A. and Katherine E. Murray, girl, Harry A. and Pearl P. Leachman, boy, Walter H. and Evelyn Roberts, boy, David L. and Edith DePre, girl, Alan S. and Rhoda V. Blackford, boy, Edwin H. and Evelyn Roberts, boy, C. Robert and Della Gasaway, girl, Benjamin H. and Evelyn Roberts, boy, Shelton and Albert Killey, boy.

Deaths.

John A. and Katherine E. Murray, girl, Harry A. and Pearl P. Leachman, boy, Walter H. and Evelyn Roberts, boy, David L. and Edith DePre, girl, Alan S. and Rhoda V. Blackford, boy, Edwin H. and Evelyn Roberts, boy, C. Robert and Della Gasaway, girl, Benjamin H. and Evelyn Roberts, boy, Shelton and Albert Killey, boy.

Deaths.

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TWO GO TO JAIL FOR GETTING 'WET' IN 'DRY' CAPITAL

Two men were sentenced to serve terms in jail, two were granted motions for jury trial, one was granted a motion for a new trial after being sentenced, and one was placed on parole for violation of the Sheppard "dry" law in Police Court today. Three forfeited collateral for failing to appear in answer to charges of drunkenness.

John W. Stewart, eighteen years old, and John F. Bowman, both colored, received the jail sentences. Police Sergeant Davis produced in court two half-pint flasks labeled "Mt. Vernon Rye Whiskey," which he testified he had obtained by furnishing money to Charles Hawkins, colored, who bought one bottle from each defendant. Hawkins corroborated the sergeant's testimony. Each prisoner was sentenced to serve two months in jail and to pay a \$500 fine. In default of the fines each will serve four months.

Isaiah T. Shepherd, colored, had a jury trial when he drove a Treasury truck into an automobile, through a fence, and finally into a pounding machine of the Capital Traction Company at Nineteenth street near Pennsylvania avenue northwest while intoxicated. He was sentenced to six months in jail, but later was granted a motion for a new trial.

Isaiah T. Shepherd was put on parole for three months. Samuel Richardson, colored, charged with drunkenness, and George Taylor, colored, charged with selling liquor, were granted motions for jury trial. John Carlos Harry Dunbar, and Joseph Hudson, each forfeited \$25 collateral.

Carried Half Mile By Halifax Blast, Officer Still Lives

HALIFAX, N. S., Dec. 19.—Third Officer Mayers, of the steamship Middleton Castle, which lay about 200 yards from the Mont Blanc when her cargo of T. N. T. blew up in the harbor here, is relating a story of his experiences which is declared to be the greatest miracle of the explosion.

Mayers says he was standing on deck fully clothed when he saw flames on the deck of the Mont Blanc. He lost consciousness, and when he woke up he was lying in a pile of snow on the top of Fort Needham Hill, a distance of half a mile away.

Fellow officers vouch for the truth of Mayers' story. The "human catapult" sustained slight injuries from the experience but will shortly return to his duties.

PEACE BY SWORD PLAN OF KAISER, SAYS CHANCELLOR

LONDON, Dec. 19.—(By Germany's peace efforts) Kaiser Wilhelm has issued a statement declaring that the only course for Germany to pursue is to seek peace by the sword. Germany's course in the west is now clear, he says, since peace parleys with Great Britain are out of the question.

The German chancellor holds Premier Lloyd George responsible, declaring that "the British government under Lloyd George's leadership is completely inaccessible to the idea of a just peace by understanding."

Referring to the British premier's speech, in which he said he would regard peace overtures with Prussia at the moment the Prussian military spirit was drunk with enthusiasm as a betrayal of the trust imposed on him by the people, Chancellor Von Hertling said:

"It is not Lloyd George who is judge of the world, but history. As on August 2, 1914, so also today may look forward to its verdict with equanimity."

COME TO THE "ECONOMY" And Save Xmas Shoe Money

Save on Your Gifts of Xmas Slippers and Hosiery

Tablefuls of Women's and Children's Slippers

Boys' and girls' warm red felt Slippers—women's broken toes of felt, kid, Japanese silk and corduroy hosiery and bath Slippers. Values to \$1.50, 49c

Women's Crochet Slippers 69c

Women's felt Slippers with lamb's wool insoles and padded elk 98c

Women's felt Julietts and ribbon trim Moccasins at \$1.25

Men's special lots of tan and black leather and opera Slippers, and felt Romeos or Everetts and others, at \$1.35 and \$1.75

Other Slippers for men—in many splendid styles, At \$1.25, \$1.50, \$2 up to \$3

Special Sale Women's Fine Dollar Silk Hosiery At 85c 3 Pairs, \$2.50

Extra good quality, full fashioned, with silk lisle foot and wide garter top. Black, white and colors. Women's "Phoenix" Thread Silks and Many of the Latest Novelties At 90c, \$1.25, \$1.35 & \$1.65

Specials—Men's Silk Socks Extra good 50c value—all colors 3 for \$1.15; a pair 39c

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The sale that has brought hundreds of smart young women to this busy store. The sale that has had all our competitors "guessing!"

More Than 40 of the Newest, Latest Styles of Young Women's Gray, Tan, Brown and Black and Two-Tone Boots Including hundreds of pairs consigned us by leading makers of Cincinnati and Rochester—being shipments that were canceled, due to the freight embargo.

The Power Behind the Iron Man of Today

Dr. Ferdinand Kling, a New York City Physician and Medical Author, says: "There can be no strong, vigorous, iron men nor beautiful, healthy, well-checked women without Iron—Nuxated Iron taken three times per day after meals will increase the strength and endurance of weak, nervous, run-down folks 100 per cent; in two weeks time in many instances. Avoid the old form of metallic iron which may injure the teeth, corrode the stomach, and thereby do more harm than good. Take only organic Iron—Nuxated Iron." It is dispensed in this city by James O'Donnell's Drug Store, People's Drug Store, and all good druggists.

THE ECONOMY SHOE MARKET

414 NINTH STREET N.W.

Continuing This Great Sale Success 'Cancelled Shipments' Of Women's Newest \$7 to \$9 Novelty Boots At \$5.85

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DEATHS

CART—On Monday, December 17, 1917, at 1:30 p. m., at the residence of his parents, 2600 14th St. N.W., Mr. JAMES H. CART, beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. JAMES H. CART, aged 34 years.

FUNERAL services at the home today at 2 p. m. Interment Lincoln Park Cemetery, Baltimore.

GOULD—On Monday, December 17, 1917, DENNIS M. GOULD, beloved husband of Mrs. MRS. GOULD.

FUNERAL services will be held at Wright's Funeral Home, 1414 14th St. N.W., at 2 p. m. Interment at East Mount Vernon, New York.

WATKINS—On Tuesday, December 18, 1917, Mrs. MARGARET R. WATKINS, devoted mother of the late Mr. Richard J. Watkins. Funeral at St. Patrick's Church, on Thursday morning, December 20, at 10 o'clock. Interment private.

UNDERTAKERS

J. WILLIAM LEE, UNDERTAKER AND LIVERY, 323 Pa. Ave. N.W., Telephone M. 135, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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